

# Summary of the Friday Sermon Delivered by Hazrat Mirza Tahir Ahmad - Khalifatul Masih IV. On 27<sup>th</sup> December 1996

Charitable men and charitable women and those who lend Allah a goodly loan it will be increased manifold for them and theirs will be a generous reward.

And those who believe in Allah and His Messenger are the Truthful and the Witnesses in the sight of their Lord, they will have their reward and their light. But those who disbelieve and reject Our Signs, are the inmates of Hell.

*The Holy Quran.* al-Hadid [Iron]: 19, 20.

As I had mentioned yesterday during the inaugural address to the Jalsa of India today's sermon would be devoted to Waqf e Jadid [The New Scheme]. Waqf e Jadid began in '56/'57 but it began to be extended to contributions [collected] from outside Pakistan a few years ago. When I made this appeal I had not thought that such great needs were about to arise. Subsequent events revealed that this appeal was definitely placed in the heart by Allah because suddenly there was such an increase in preaching [activities] that the increasing needs of Africa and India for preaching and moral upbringing required a large financial sum.

The light of those offering financial contributions for God mentioned here means the purity and cleanliness of their hearts with which they offer sacrifices and the more that light is heightened and refined the more their reward would be increased and they would be granted dignity. The stations of truthfulness and witnessing mentioned herein also relate to light. In reality without having understood the stages of [making] financial offerings the emotion for financial offerings cannot be properly ignited.

Sacrifices are made through copying [others] and also out of a competitive impulse and *The Holy Quran* has given us the goal of outdoing one another in good. But there are additional appeals even higher than this and that is when offerings are made merely for the sake of Allah's pleasure and no money is given [that is] empty of the love of God. If this is included then one is impelled to go forward. This is the recipe to transform virtues into light where every virtue is infused with the love of Allah so that the virtues spring out of the love of Allah. In this relation the simple advice is to always give priority to the love of Allah in your heart and make offering through reference to it.

This is the forty-first year of Waqf e Jadid. From 1 January '97 we will be entering its forty-second year. Although as yet the number of [Ahmadi] countries have reached at least 152 but for Reports to be received from just 56 countries shows what vast work of moral training remains.

The foreign contributions of Waqf e Jadid are all spent on India and Africa to the extent that the remainder of Waqf e Jadid contributions from Pakistan are now also sent outside and they have this honour.

The contributions of the foreign countries have increased much more than those of Pakistan, Bangladesh and India and we have received this sum at the exact time when there was a dire need for it. There have been hundreds of thousands of people converting to Ahmadiyya in

Africa. You can imagine how much was needed to establish Dish Antenna Centres, construct mosques, train local teachers as required to fulfil their very basic needs.

America tops the list today in the financial offerings for Waqf e Jadid. The total contributions received from the whole world amount to £1094361. So America has excelled the contributions of the whole world. 10 years ago the collective contributions of America were no higher than what they give today just for Waqf e Jadid. How did this ability increase? The general promise made by God that *We would grant increase* also teaches that *We would encourage you [to offer] more in our path and no situation would arise which would force you to decrease*.

Compared to the promise of £6055172 we have [now] received £1094361. Similarly there has been great abundance in the numbers of paying members of Waqf e Jadid. Last year 1046462 people joined it and 1067494 have joined this year. Hundreds of thousands of people have joined who have acquired a relish for spending for the cause of God.

10 years ago the total Budget of America was \$803500 and now the Budget of Waqf e Jadid alone is \$9036508.30. God has manifestly blessed the sincerity and efforts of the Community. America's step is progressing not only in this but also in many other aspects. Albeit there are still Ahmadis present there who could be convinced so that God would increase their ability to make financial offerings. Their contributions still lag behind in terms of their ability. Pakistan is second in Number in terms of the Waqf e Jadid contributions, Germany is at Number 3, Great Britain is fourth, and Canada is fifth. There is little difference between Britain and Canada [here]. £24527 have been received from India which is astonishing considering the situation in India. Indonesia's contributions lag behind from their ability. The system of the Community there has not fully woken up yet otherwise the sincerity of vigour in Indonesia is no less than [that of] America or India.

I specifically advise the Jamats in India to speed up and organise the work of Waqf e Jadid. Most of the proselytising there is being done through Waqf e Jadid so attend to the provinces that are weak in their proselytising. Try to stand on your own feet so you would no longer require external empowerment for your system of Waqf e Jadid.

Hazrat Musleh Maud stated that Waqf e Jadid concerns the foreign missions and people should always be reminded of this. Keep in view whether there are saints of Allah being born in the Jamats or not!

New demands are arising in Europe. Especially in establishing Community bases in Eastern Europe, and building new mosques because these are tasks requiring finances. This is not a requirement which can be presented as a continual appeal for contributions. There is an immediate need especially in Albania and Bosnia. For this purpose I appeal for \$1500000 and present this appeal so that all those Ahmadis who take part in offering regular contributions and for whom it is not possible to bear more of a burden should take part in this at least to some extent as a source of blessing and those whom God has made affluent should take part in this as much as they can. I hope that  $\frac{2}{3}$  of this amount would be paid in the first year and the remaining  $\frac{1}{3}$  in the second year.

With these hopes and prayers and trusting in the bounties and favours of Allah we enter this new forty-second year of Waqf e Jadid

